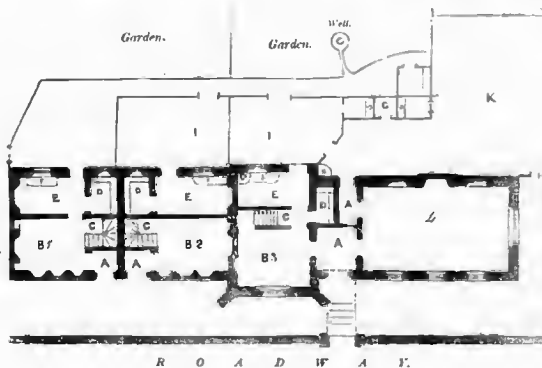




PERSPECTIVE VIEW.



GROUND PLAN.

A. A. Lobby.
B 1 B 2 B 3. Living-rooms.
C. C. C. Open staircases, with closets under.
D. D. D. Pantries.

E. E. E. Sculleries.
F. F. F. Sinks.
G. Ash-bin and privies.
H. Washing-trough.

I. I. Yards.
K. Play-ground.
L. School-room.

SCHOOL AND COTTAGES.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE BUILDER."

Sir,—Observing in your publication remarks upon Cottage Economy, and being anxious to contribute my mite towards the furtherance of a knowledge of the subject, I inclose sketches illustrative of the general external character and internal arrangement of some cottages, with a school, in which is attached the home of a school-mistress, which I have lately erected in the village of Bourton, near Shrewsbury, Berks, upon the estate of Henry Tucker, Esq., and which I am enabled to say meet, in all points of economy, the wishes of their inhabitants, and I may add that to "cottage comforts" some little attention has been paid in order to revive, even in this humble particular, the true spirit of by-gone days.

The cottages are each provided with a lobby, a living-room, a scullery, a pantry, an open staircase, with a closet under the stairs; on the chamber-floor are two large comfortable bed-rooms, with closets.

The mistress's house is a more spacious dwelling, with three bed-rooms. The school is provided with two lobbies, one of which is

available to the house, the other is used as a general depository for cloaks, hats, &c.; the timbers of the roof are entirely exposed with circular framed ribs, and boarded under the slates; in the gable over the larger end window is formed a cross in stained glass; the windows are otherwise of ground glass; the walls are constructed of a hard lime-stone, their dressings being of Bath stone.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

F. W. ORDISH.

Bourton Village, Dec. 11, 1843.

METROPOLITAN IMPROVEMENTS.

THE following letter upon this subject has been addressed to the editor of the *Times*—

"Sir,—The public, and especially the inhabitants of different localities where metropolitan improvements are in progress, have just cause of complaint. The *modus operandi* is as follows:—They pull down one house here, and another there, in places unconnected with each other. The Act of Parliament directing these improvements passed in August, 1840, yet they have not built one house, nor cleared a spot that one might be built. This is very injurious to the inhabitants of the locality, who

not only sustain great inconvenience, but serious loss. Every house untenanted diminishes the number of the customers to the tradesmen in the vicinity, whilst the public lose the amount of the rents of those houses, which, if received, would go in part liquidation of the improvements.

"At the end of Plumtree-street twenty houses have been pulled down for twelve months. All the houses in Broad-street required have been settled with some time, yet these are lying empty. No ruina is assigned for delay, yet individuals applying for the terms of rebuilding obtain no answer.

"The means by which these improvements are to be carried out is by a heavy tax on coals, therefore these delays and losses will be seriously felt by the public at large.

"The last paragraph under the head of 'metropolitan improvements' states that they have commenced pulling down houses opposite St. Andrew-street, St. Giles's. Why commence there until they have finished the upper end of St. Martin's-lane, or Plumtree-street?

"In addition to the losses sustained by the obstructions caused by pulling down, by the departure of customers to other places, the